

THURSDAY June 04, 2015

Prime Minister Mike Eman and VP Jorge Familiar

SIGNED a Memorandum of Understanding



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THE World Bank's Vice President for Latin America and the Caribbean, Jorge Familiar informed on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that the World Bank signed with the Aruban Prime Minister Mike Eman.

'This is the first important step to reinforce the relations between the

World Bank and Aruba. We have firm compromises and we will work with Aruba to make the way of development for the island stronger. This is a very positive step which gives us an opportunity to share what we can learn from other countries in the region and the rest of world. At the same time we learned of the experience of Aruba

and share this with other countries particularly in the Caribbean.

Mr. Familiar said that there are many interests and challenges that affect the Caribbean that are very relevant. One of these can be the costs of a foundation for a sustainable growth.

'Other areas of interest are renewed

energy. Particularly in Aruba where huge progress was made in diversification of energy and ambitious targets were set for the future. Economy is another area of interest, the role of the ocean and the maintenance of the sources of energy and the good use of sustainability as growth.



Minister Otmar Oduber

Present in the Marketing Retreat

in New York

MINISTER Otmar Oduber is in New York to attend the annual marketing retreat organized by the ATA. The aim of this retreat is for the Government, ATA and the North American partners to outline our marketing management on the island and evaluate what has been done and how to improve. This is a very important meeting seeing that this deals with our touristic market and it is not only important to maintain the positive results but also

to improve them.

During these two days meeting, different topics of importance of the marketing of Aruba in North America will be discussed. Some of the topics that will surely receive attention are the Digital Marketing, Social Media, First Time Visitors, Repeat Visitors, Affluent Tourist and Diversification of our Tourism both geographic as demographic.

17 NON-STOP FLIGHTS from Aruba in 2015

Heavy investments in new routes, equipment and personnel

In a press conference yesterday, represented by CEO, Frederick Nuboer, Commercial & Marketing Manager, Tita Iglesias and COO, Luticio Hermans at Surfside, InselAir revealed the developments of the company.

InselAir Aruba is investing heavily in market development which will result in 9 new destinations this year; as of July, 2015, San Juan, Santo Domingo, St. Maarten and Medellin will be added to InselAir Aruba's network, followed by Barranquilla, Bucaramanga, Cali, Quito and Havana later this year. By the end of 2015 InselAir Aruba will offer passengers a total of 17 destinations from Aruba which amounts to more than all the other airlines combined together. InselAir Aruba also offers, with an average of 12 flights per day, the most daily flights of all carriers flying to/from Aruba which represents a market share of 18% in Aruba. From its ABC-hub InselAir offers a network of 27 destinations, 40 routes and 180 city pairs which makes InselAir the largest Caribbean-based carrier.

Largest local airline. Huge investments

InselAir Aruba's CEO, Frederick Nuboer, stretches the importance of InselAir as a local airline: "Foreign airlines don't employ as many people directly as InselAir Aruba does, don't purchase parts and lubricants locally and don't pay millions in taxes, to give just a few examples". "Furthermore, as a local airline, InselAir Aruba invests heavily in educating staff (intellectual capital) and equipment; InselAir purchased 8 new aircraft in the past 2 years for a sum of 40 million AWG," ends Nuboer.

Focus on Latin America

InselAir Aruba's network is now covering 40 routes in the Caribbean, Latin America and the U.S.A. using 19 aircrafts. One of the reasons for InselAir's Aruba growth is the fact that the ABC islands are geographically better located than any other island for serving South America to South East U.S.A. and the Caribbean. Because of this can InselAir Aruba make better, easier and shorter connections than other airlines. The future of the ABC islands can be found in Latin America's tourism and business.

Network strategy and campaign

To make all markets aware of the numerous travel possibilities within InselAir's network, the company is currently rolling out a 1.000.000 AWG network campaign in all its 27 destinations. Channels that are being used are TV, radio, online marketing, local events, social media and direct email. "Not only have we added new destinations and extra frequencies, we also have created more seamless connections between existing destinations" – Nuboer concluded.

InselAir International fleet (19), 8 new AWG 40 million investment



7 MD-80 series (new 1)



3 Fokker 70 (new 3)



7 Fokker 50 (new 4)



2 Embraer Bandeirante 110 (charters)





Ben Whiteman (The Minister of Public Health of Curacao)

"The signed protocol distinguishes and opens way to reach a procedure of agreement on how to work together".

THE ongoing conference of the Health Care Conference Aruba (HCCA) has already been classified as a very successful one. The great amount of participants of Aruba, Curacao, Saint Martin and other countries in the region came together to listen to prominent speakers on very interesting topics given to each one of them. At the end of the first day, a very important agreement was signed by three Ministers. Minister of Health, Dr. Ben Whiteman from Curacao. Drs. Edith Schippers of Holland and Dr. Alex Schwengle of Aruba.

In an short interview with Dr.Ben Whiteman of Curacao, he elaborated on his view of this conference and the themes that were widely discussed on a ministerial level."One of the first themes that was widely discussed was the arrangement of the 'International Health Regulation' (IGR) where Curacao, Saint Martin, Aruba and Holland (representing BES), decided to unite in the infrastructure to fight contagious diseases.

Whiteman indicated that the globalization of traffic of human and goods have taken a too big dimension

that what happens today in one part of the world, will happen tomorrow in a next part of the world. This is exactly the case also with contagious diseases that can migrate with people and goods. He gave as an example the 'swine flu'.

'This illustrate the need for us to cooperation with each other to fight these diseases. We can also mention the Ebola virus and the Chikungunya and a more recent virus that is arising, named 'Zika'"

According to Whiteman the meeting on a ministerial level was to reach an

agreement to sign the IGR protocol. The administrative level of this agreement will follow.

'The Government officials will give the contents of what was agreed on and signed. We can consider this as a continuous effort on how to fight diseases for the years to come. Seeing that this is the first time that the countries of the Kingdom sign a protocol on Health, the Minister qualified this as a very important achievement. The Minister of Health of all 4 countries will meet once a year to discuss health issues'.



The Aruba Bodyboard Association Organizes

The ANKER Competition

June 6 & 7, 2015

THE Aruba Bodyboard Association organizes a tremendous competition of Bodyboarding at Anker/Grapefield at San Nicols. The competition is promised to be unique in several categories: Women, Dropknee and Junior.

In the Surfing division there are two categories: Open and Women. During the last years more athletes join this extreme sport. The north coast of Aruba is full almost every week with people who meet to practice the bodyboard, dropknee and surf.

Aruba Bodyboard Association is working hard to enhance this sport of bodyboarding and surfing for our youth. Aruba's Lottery, Lotto and the Subsidy Commission, are contributing to make this extreme sport bigger.

The Kingdom APPROVED LAW

to prevent and fight abuse against women and domestic abuse

YESTERDAY, in the plenary meeting in Holland, the law to prevent and fight abuse against women and domestic abuse was treated. According to article 17 of the Statute, when dealing with laws of the Kingdom, there is the possibility for a delegation of a country for which the law is valid, represent and speak in the name of that country in the plenary debate.

On this occasion, the honor was given to members of Parliament of Aruba, Mr. Ady Thijsen and Mrs. Xiomara Ruiz Maduro to represent Aruba in the in this debate.

Abuse against women and domestic abuse is a problem which touches our country also. It reaches women of

all social classes and also affects our families but the welfare of our children and youth are mostly damaged.

Compared to Holland, in Aruba we still do not have enough laws to prevent and fight abuse. Neither is there enough investigations being done on this topic in order to work more effectively on prevention.

For this reason, we hope that the approval of this Law of the Kingdom can offer a necessary impulse to not only introduce new laws but to give priorities as well to execute more investigations on the origin, consequences and prevention of abuse of women and domestic abuse.



Minister Paul Croes:

Power of Youth Project CONTINUES to surprise young volunteers

DURING the weekend, The Power of Youth Commission visited the Ora Ubao Scout Group. They surprised the Scout Group with the announcement that 3 more young nominees had been selected. All three nominees accepted the nomination and declared that they are ready to start working on the challenges set before them. The Power of Youth Commission consists of ATHA Aruba, Ministry of Social and Youth Affairs and the Cultural Department of Aruba.

The young nominees are: Maricarmen Bikker, Xaui Thijssen y Nakeisha Thompson. They were selected for their excellent contribution to the community.

Minister Paul Croes, Mr. Ricky Hoek and The Power of Youth Commission and all other departments who are cooperating, will continue to work hard for this project to excel in success and for the welfare of our youth. Minister Paul Croes expresses in an interview:

'The Power of Youth is an illustration that our youth is powerful and has potential to do positive things. This project is to motive all our young people in Aruba and show them that their merits will be valued and compensated by the Government, organizations and the community.'

Special thanks go to all the leaders of the Ora Ubao Scouts, but mostly to Jelisse Boekhoudt who saw the potentials in these young ones and decided to nominate them.

To all who gave a hand to help enhance this project, thank you so much. This event went in a very special way, where the family, Bevers and Scout leaders surprised these three ladies, Mari, Xavi and Keisha. The Power of Youth Project has a big success already. Congratulations to the youth, the parents, the teachers and leaders of youth groups, the youth organizations and to the whole Power of Youth team.

A young one who in one way or the other has excelled in any category, social, art and culture, education, sports, volunteer work, innovation, communication can be nominated. The vision of this project is to stimulate and sustain the youth to reach concrete and durable goals.

For more information visit: www.athaaruba.org





Weight Athlete Jennifer Piter SATISFIED with the process of preparation



WEIGHT lifting athlete, Jennifer Piter will also compete next month in the Pan American Games 2015 in Toronto, Canada. Since November last year, she classified for the Pan American Games 2015. Jennifer elaborates on how her preparations are going for the occasion. After living for a short time in Colombia, Jennifer Piter returns to Aruba where she started to go to the gym to keep in good condition.

Jennifer was discovered 6 years ago, while practicing power lifting, by two key persons in the weight lifting sport, Hugo Themen and Theo Bareño. They asked Jennifer if she wants to do a tryout. Instantly, the sport clicked with

her and until this day she is practicing this sport with much enthusiasm.

Jennifer is preparing herself for the Pan American Games in Toronto. She says that everything is going as scheduled and she is training very hard every under the guidance of her coach Gallego. The training varies and are very intensive and a lot of focused is set on the exercises of 'squat', explosion and force, but mostly, on the technical part which is the most important factor when you practice the weight lifting sport. Without a good technical discipline one can not exceed the desired weight.

Jennifer tells that the discipline of 'snatch' is going perfectly, while the 'clean and jerk' are also going according to schedule.

During the Pan American Games, Jennifer will compete in the categories of 63kg, and she wants to break her personal record with at least two more kilos. Her record now is 171kg and she wants to exceed this up to 173kg.

Now a day, more female athletes are practicing the weight lifting sport due to the new sport with Crossfit. According to Jennifer it is good for the sport to create more competitions since Crossfit also practice some weight

lifting. This is how new talents in this sport can be discovered.

Jennifer Piter is more successful female athlete in the weight lifting sport. She has obtained medals for Aruba in various international competitions. For Jennifer, the competitions in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic are the most memorable ones seeing that in less than 5 months time she conquered 5 gold medals.

Jennifer Piter gives advices for all other athletes who want to shine in the weight lifting sport: Have patience, be dedicated and be disciplined. Train hard, but always remember that your technical part is very important.



Paris Bridge's Love Locks REMOVED

THE padlocks that weigh heavily on the sides of the Pont des Arts tell stories dear to the lovers who affixed them to the celebrated bridge's iron grillwork. City workers, using a crane and wheeled dollies, began to dismantle the wire mesh panels on which hundreds of thousands of lovers expressed their affections in what they thought would be an ironclad statement: a metal lock, usually etched with the couple's initials, attached to the bridge, and the key tossed into the Seine below. Bruno Julliard, the deputy mayor in charge of culture, who supervised the removal of the locks, tried to be sensitive to the feelings of those who had placed them there, saying that Paris was still "the capital of love, the capital of romance." But he urged people to find other ways to express their fervency.

City officials have for months discussed removing the locks and protecting the bridge, first built in the early 1800s and reconstructed in the 1980s. Worries about seeming insensitive or oblivious to the popularity of such a lasting declaration of affection were one factor officials considered when they tried to figure out how best to restore the landmark bridge.

Mr. Julliard said the removal of the locks, however unsentimental, was necessary for security and aesthetic reasons. The city will temporarily replace the bridge's lock-laden grills this week with panels painted by street artists, and it will later replace those with custom-made plexiglass to protect the historic iron grillwork. The plexiglass will allow pedestrians to once again see the Seine through the grillwork. The locks had obscured the view. When locks first began to appear more than five years ago, some "could be seen as rather pleasant, but as years passed they took on such proportions

that they were no longer acceptable for the cultural heritage" of Paris, Mr. Julliard said.

With hundreds of thousands hanging on the bridge, they were too heavy for its elegant ironwork. There was a constant risk that batches of the locks or even a whole panel could come crashing down on the boats passing beneath. For some time, the city has periodically replaced whole sections of the bridge, only to see them fill again with locks.

The locks weigh an estimated 45 tons and will be kept in a city warehouse after they are removed until the officials decide what to do with them.

Mr. Julliard said the city was looking at recycling some of the panels as works of art or giving them to charities. There is no plan, for now, to fish out the more than 700,000 keys at the bottom of the river. One person who was unabashedly pleased with the city's move was Lisa Anselmo, who with a friend, Lisa Taylor Huff, championed the removal of the locks and started nolovelocks.com on

the web.

"It's an important first step for Paris," Ms. Anselmo said. "Paris is ground zero in this trend" of attaching locks to architecture. Berlin, London and New York have all seen similar phenomena. "As a tourist, the most important thing is to be respectful of a place's culture," she said.

However, it looks as if Ms. Anselmo and Ms. Taylor Huff, as well as the Paris mayor's office, still have lots of work ahead. Although city officials are also removing locks from the nearby Pont de l'Archevêché, the locks have already spread like barnacles onto several other bridges. The city has no plans to fine tourists who use love locks, but it will remove them from other locations. The next bridge up the Seine, the Pont Neuf, already has a scattering of locks along grillwork where the bridge joins the quay. No doubt that with the Pont des Arts now out of bounds, those intent on locking their love in metal will find other places to do so.



FIFA Scandal:



Interpol Issues 'Red Notices' For Six Mentioned in Indictment

INTERPOL issued wanted-person notices Wednesday for six people accused by the Department of Justice of being involved in a vast corruption network surrounding soccer's FIFA governing body. The so-called "red notices" — which do not have the power of an international arrest warrant — were issued at the request of U.S. authorities, Interpol said in a statement.

Former FIFA vice president Jack Warner and former FIFA executive committee member Nicolás Leoz were the top names on Interpol's list, followed by Alejandro Burzaco, Hugo Jinkis and Mariano Jinkis, all heads of marketing businesses based in Argentina, and José Margulies, who runs Brazilian broadcasting

firm Valente

Corp. and Somerton Ltd.

Interpol said the charges included "racketeering, conspiracy and corruption."

Interpol issues its red notices to inform member countries that a judiciary authority has issued an arrest warrant and is seeking the location of the defendants "with a view to extradition or similar lawful action."

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six were among the 14 people mentioned in an indictment unsealed by the Department of Justice last week. The document alleged a decades-long corruption scandal worth \$150 million between high-level FIFA officials and marketing executives.

Sepp Blatter announced Tuesday he was to resign as FIFA's president just days after being re-elected in the wake of the scandal.

Well-preserved: **350 YEARS AFTER,**

this noblewoman's still fully dressed



ARCHAEOLOGISTS in France have unearthed the extraordinarily well-preserved corpse of a 17th century noblewoman -- still dressed in her dress, bonnet and shoes.

A team from the French National Institute for Preventive Archaeological Research discovered the body when they pried open her coffin during a rescue excavation on the construction site of a new conference center in Rennes, south-western France.

"When we opened the coffin (we) saw a body, a lot of volume of fabric, the shoes," said anthropologist Rozenn

Colleter, who is part of the team. "We didn't know how well-preserved she was until we scanned her." Colleter describes her as a "natural mummy-- particularly well preserved." Inscriptions allowed the archaeologists to identify the nearly intact body as belonging to Louise de Quengo, Lady of Brefeillac, who died in 1656.

Her lead coffin was first opened in March 2014. It was one of five -- among approximately 800 graves -- found at the site, which has housed the Convent of the Jacobins since the 12th century. A lead reliquary containing the heart of her husband, Toussaint de Perrien, Knight of Brefeillac who died in 1649

was also discovered nearby. Once the coffin was open, the team had to rush to preserve her body. A unique set of circumstances had preserved the corpse for hundreds of years, but it was not embalmed so they knew decomposition would start rapidly.

"We had only a few days to work," said Colleter.

They collaborated with scientists from the Molecular Anthropology and Synthetic Imaging Laboratory at the University of Toulouse to scan the entire body.

They also collected samples of uncontaminated human tissue and DNA

and pathogens including tuberculosis. Samples could help researchers looking for a cure of tuberculosis, said Colleter. From analysis, the scientists concluded that Louise de Quengo died from an infection.

"It's extraordinary," said Colleter of finding such a well-preserved corpse. "You have to have a lead coffin, but it has to be (hermetically sealed), without insects and the humidity has to be low. 'The doctors said the body was like (one) that has been buried for two weeks, but she is 350.'"

Louise de Quengo will be reburied once all the scientific tests are completed.



Bruce Jenner emerges as a woman
on the cover of *Vanity Fair*:

'Call me Caitlyn'

BRUCE Jenner, now known as "Caitlyn," comes out as a woman on the coming cover of *Vanity Fair*.

Annie Leibovitz shot the first pictures of Caitlyn, which were taken in Jenner's Malibu home.

Pulitzer Prize-winning contributing editor and author of "Friday Night Lights" Buzz Bissinger interviewed Jenner for the cover story, in which Jenner described the path to becoming Caitlyn.

"If I was lying on my deathbed and I had kept this secret and never ever did anything about it, I would be lying there saying, 'You just blew your entire life,'" Jenner said of why she finally decided to make her transition public.

In a behind-the-scenes video from the *Vanity Fair* cover shoot, Jenner says: "Bruce always had to tell a lie, he was always living a lie, every day he had a secret from morning until night. Caitlyn doesn't have any secrets. As soon as the *Vanity Fair* cover comes out, I'm free."

Caitlyn Jenner received a verified Twitter account, amassing more than 150,000 followers within the first 40 minutes.

In April, Jenner sat down with Diane

Sawyer in what was described as her last interview as Bruce, announcing that the public transition into a woman would come "sometime in the spring."

Caitlyn's children have been very supportive of their father's transition. According to E! Online, Kim Kardashian told "Access Hollywood" last month that she had "just recently met" Caitlyn and that it was an "amazing" experience. "She looked beautiful."

"She was dressed up: beautiful makeup, beautiful hair," Kim said, calling Caitlyn "very, very beautiful." Seeing Caitlyn as a woman "felt really natural," she added. "Everyone in the family has such a different emotion," Kim added. "We all get back to acceptance and everyone supports him, but it's OK to have every emotion. There is this sense of death that people around feel, and he understands that, but he's not going anywhere. Sometimes [Kendall] and [Kylie] get emotional over that and feel like their dad's gone, but they understand that they've gained someone else that is the same person, although a little bit different."

"It's just a new chapter," Kim said

VANITY FAIR



"Call me Caitlyn"

© BIZZ BISSINGER Photo by ANNIE LEIBOVITZ

Mother fights brain cancer with electric fields

AGAINST all odds, Elizabeth Marek is alive thanks to a tumor-killing device that attacks brain cancer cells with electric fields. Marek has glioblastoma, a deadly and aggressive form of brain cancer with no cure and a life expectancy of just over two years. Twenty-six weeks pregnant with her second child, 3 years after a small tumor was found in her brain, Marek began suffering from extreme headaches. She thought it was migraines due to pregnancy.

"It ended up being a tumor that was the size of my fist on the left side of my brain and it was pushing the left brain into the right brain area," she said.

A team of oncologists and surgeons at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri successfully removed the tumor during an emergency surgery and then waited 8 weeks to allow Marek's daughter more time in the womb before starting radiation and chemotherapy treatments.

After the second round of chemotherapy, a new tumor started forming in Marek's brain. That is when Dr. George Ansstas offered her a chance to be a science experiment.

Ansstas fitted Marek with a device called Optune, developed by U.S.-based oncology firm Novocure. A backpack feeds to an array of electrodes attached to Marek's head. Those electrodes create an electric field inside her brain which stops cell division in cancer cells.

"There are highly charged particles in the cells that play a role in division and if you expose those cells to this electromagnetic field you might disrupt that process and lead cells to death," Ansstas explained.

In clinical trials the device, used in combination with conventional treatments, extended patients' lives by an average of three months.

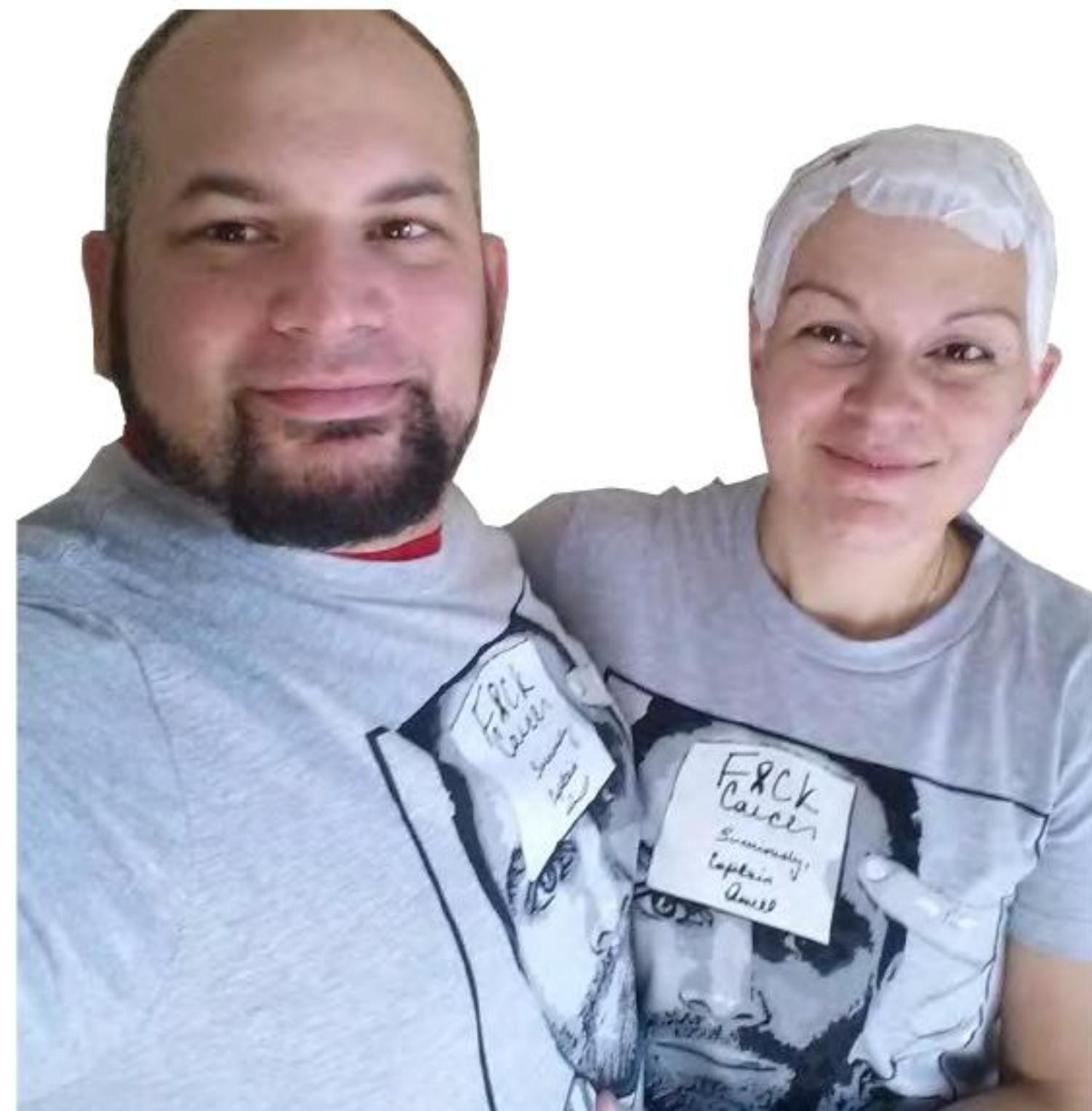
"Also when we look at those patients at two years about 43 percent of those patients survive, that is something that has not been seen before," Ansstas added.

43 percent compared to 29 percent with patients that didn't use the device during the trial period. The results of the trial are being presented this week at the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting in Chicago. The device has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat adult patients with recurrent glioblastoma. More than 2000 patients are currently using the device, according to Novocure.

For Marek the results have been dramatic. "The first time I got results back after using it for two weeks, I had a 30 percent reduction in my tumor size," she said.

According to her doctors, Marek currently has no measurable signs of cancer in her brain. She has been wearing the device for a year and says apart from the odd looks, her life is back to normal. "The only thing that is different about me is that I carry around a backpack that is putting electrodes into my brain. That way if little kids say 'oh what is that for, what is that for' I say that's my battery for my brain," she said.

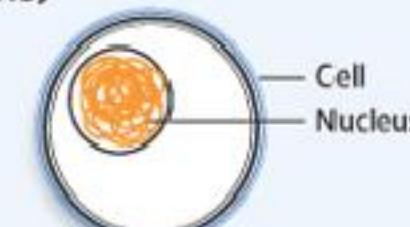
There are no studies about the long term efficacy of her electric cancer fighter and in that sense Elizabeth is a pioneer, counting her blessings and enjoying her family one day at a time.



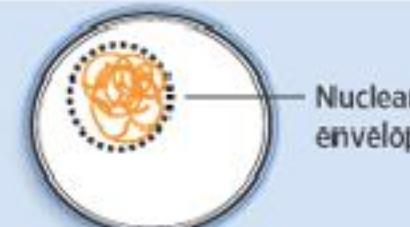
Disrupting Cancer-Cell Division

Normal Cell Division (Mitosis)

The cell DNA is doubled in preparation for division.



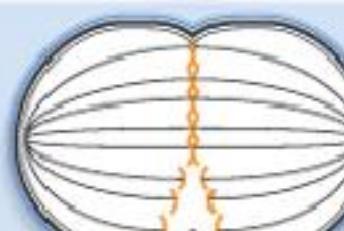
The cell's nuclear envelope disintegrates.



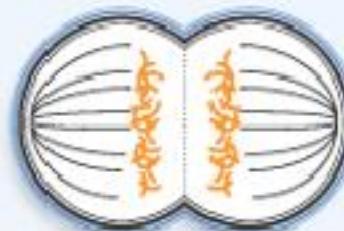
Spindle fibers form.



Chromosomes align in the center of the cell and attach to the spindle fibers.



Chromosomes move toward the two poles and the cell begins to cleave.



Two identical 'daughter cells' are formed.



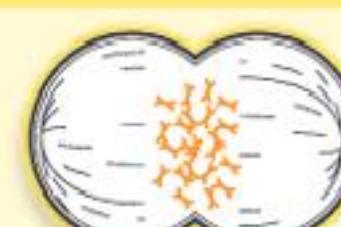
Mitosis with Device

The device delivers alternating electrical fields to the cancer cells by means of insulated electrodes on the surface of the scalp. Healthy brain cells don't divide, and the electrical fields generated by the device don't affect them.

The electrical field interferes with the production of spindle fibers...



...and disrupts the even distribution of the chromosomes...



...causing structural disruption and cell fragmentation.

Source: NovoCure

TRANSPARENCY, TEAMWORK

key to beating deadly South Korea MERS outbreak

SOUTH Korea risks a long battle with MERS unless it is transparent, works with international virus-hunters and avoids mistakes made by Saudi Arabia, where the killer disease took hold after emerging in 2012.

Virology and infectious disease specialists fought for almost two years to persuade secretive Saudi authorities to share scientific data that may have helped them stop the spread of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) there more swiftly.

Controlling the South Korean outbreak - which has already infected some 30

people, killing two so far - will require a level of openness that Saudi Arabia has only now begun to adopt.

"We need more global attention and more international collaboration. They should get a multi-disciplinary team over to help sequence the (genes of) the virus and see if it's becoming more virulent. They should do that as soon as possible."

Ben Neumann, a virologist at Britain's Reading University, noted that new MERS cases in Saudi Arabia had dropped from scores a week in April and

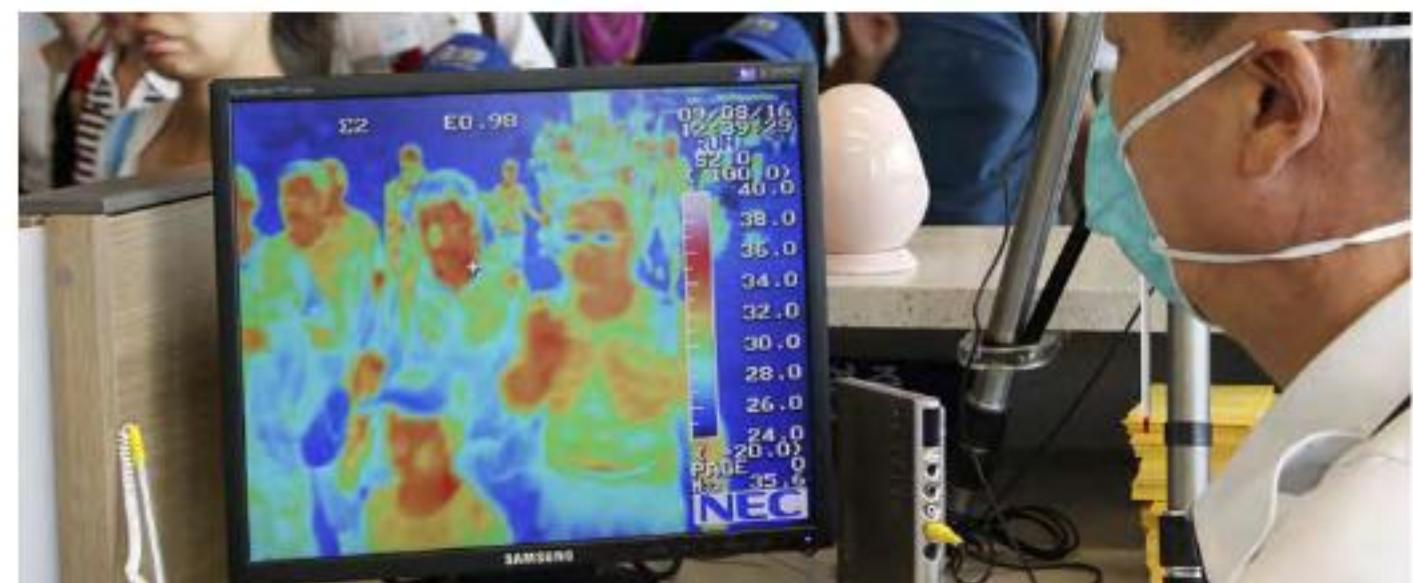
May 2014 to barely a handful now, coinciding with a more open and collaborative approach.

Yet further international spread of MERS is almost inevitable, experts say, with daily international travel helping the virus criss-cross the world.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has recorded 1,161 MERS cases globally, including 436 deaths, the vast majority in the Middle East. There is no cure or vaccine against the disease. Unknown in humans until 2012, MERS infection is caused by a coronavirus from the same family as the one that caused SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which emerged in 2002-2003 and killed around 800 people worldwide. MERS has a much higher death rate - 38 percent, according to WHO figures - but also spreads far less swiftly than SARS from person to person, making it less of a threat for now.

"I believe Korea is the twenty-fifth country to have a MERS case, and it is not likely to be the last," Neumann said. Stanley Perlman, a professor at the University of Iowa in the United States, warned that the virus, like so many of its cousins, was changing all the time and could mutate to become more easily transmissible between people.

"Although interhuman transmission is still inefficient, health authorities, governments and the research community should be prepared for the emergence of a MERS coronavirus with increased capacity for transmission and pandemic potential," he wrote in the Lancet.



Man fatally shot by officers in Boston was UNDER TERROR INVESTIGATION

A MAN who waved a large military knife at officers and is believed to have been radicalized by ISIS was shot and killed by police in Boston on Tuesday, according to officials.

The suspect, identified as Usaama Rahim, 26, was under 24-hour surveillance by anti-terrorism authorities, said FBI Special Agent in Charge Vincent B. Lisi. Rahim was a subject of a terror investigation involving suspected Islamist extremists, law enforcement sources said. "We believe he was a

brother's death on social media. Ibrahim Rahim said his brother was on the phone with their father and was shot three times in the back during the confrontation. In a statement, the Islamic Society of Boston said police have invited Muslim leaders Wednesday to watch surveillance video of the shooting.

The FBI-led task force had been watching Rahim and two associates believed to be radicalized by ISIS and other extremist influences, according to a law

threat," Boston Police Commissioner William Evans said. "He was someone we were watching for quite some time." Rahim had been under surveillance by the U.S. Joint Terrorism Task Force. Ibrahim Rahim, an imam at the Lighthouse Mosque in Oakland, California, earlier posted about his

enforcement official Rahim had been monitored for at least a couple of years.

The FBI noted a recent change in the suspect's behavior, including social media threats against police, which prompted agents to try to approach him Tuesday, according to the official. Evans said the shooting occurred about 7 a.m. after officers and FBI agents confronted Rahim, who suddenly turned around with a large black knife and lunged at officers and federal agents.

The officers had not drawn their weapons at that point. The officers retreated and ordered the man to put down the weapon before they opened fire, Evans said. The shooting was captured by surveillance video and observed by witnesses. "Unfortunately, he came at the officers and, you know, they do what they were trained to do and, unfortunately, they had to take a life," Evans said.

Rahim was struck in the torso and abdomen. A Boston police officer and a federal agent opened fire on the suspect, Evans said. The shooting is under investigation.

Pentagon accidentally sent live anthrax samples

in latest biohazard security blunder



MORE than 50 labs in 17 US states and three foreign countries have been mailed samples of live anthrax, Pentagon officials have said. The announcement on Wednesday doubled the number of incidents in the US. A smaller number of shipments were revealed last week. Staff members at some of the labs have been treated for anthrax exposure as a precaution, but no one has fallen ill. The Pentagon has maintained there is no risk to the general public. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is leading the investigation into the incidents. Experts in biosafety have heavily criticised the lapse and called for improved precautions.

Symptoms of anthrax exposure include skin ulcers, nausea, vomiting and fever, and can cause death if untreated.

The military has ordered all of its labs that have previously received inactive anthrax samples to test them. In addition it is advising all labs to cease working with these samples until told otherwise. In addition to the US labs, samples were sent to facilities in Australia, Canada and South Korea.

What is anthrax?

Anthrax bacteria live primarily in inactive spores and are found naturally in the soil, but people can ingest or inhale spores, which can make the anthrax active. Not all will be sickened when exposed to anthrax but left untreated, anthrax illness can turn very serious or lead to death. A blood culture test is used to confirm anthrax exposure. Anthrax entered the US national consciousness in 2001, when shortly after the 9/11 attacks, letters containing powdered anthrax arrived at news organisations and the offices of US senators. Twenty-two people were sickened and of those, five people died.

Russian investigators point finger at Ukraine over downing of MH17

RUSSIAN federal investigators said on Wednesday they had testimony from a former Ukrainian air force mechanic supporting a Moscow theory that a Malaysian passenger plane downed in east Ukraine last summer was attacked by a Ukrainian fighter jet.

Moscow has stepped up a campaign denying any responsibility for the downing of the airliner on July 17, 2014, with the loss of all 298 people aboard. Several versions presented by various Russian officials, however, are contradictory.

A state arms producer that makes the BUK air defense system believed to have brought down flight MH17 - though accounts differ on who fired it and from where - said on Tuesday the Boeing aircraft was hit by a missile deployed by Ukraine and not widely used by Russia's military.

Russia's federal Investigative Committee, which reports directly to President Vladimir Putin, said a Ukrainian mechanic had testified

that an SU-25 military jet took off for a combat mission on July 17 and returned with no munitions.

The committee gave the man's name as Yegor Agapov and said he was serving in the first brigade of the Ukrainian air forces based in the city of Kulykino in south Ukraine. Reuters was not immediately able to independently verify that information.

Responsibility for the downing of the plane remains a sore point in the conflict in east Ukraine, where more than 6,100 people have been killed in more than a year of fighting between Kiev government troops and pro-Russian separatist rebels.

Dutch investigators leading an international investigation into the crash, because of the large

number of Dutch victims, say their leading scenario is that it was brought down by a Russian-made BUK surface-to-air missile. The West accuses pro-Russian rebels of firing the missile.

Russia denies Western accusations that it has sent troops to eastern Ukraine and supplied sophisticated air defense weapons, or any arms, to the rebels.



Xavi Hernandez bids farewell to Barcelona

AN emotional Xavi was reduced to tears on stage at his farewell event ahead of his final appearance for Barcelona after Andres Iniesta paid tribute to his 'captain, team-mate and friend'.

The departing-midfielder announced last month he will join Qatari side Al-Sadd at the end of the season, ending his 24-year run with the Catalan giants.

Before Xavi plays in Saturday's Champions League final, Iniesta, who has been in Barcelona's first team with his compatriot since 2002, paid tribute by giving a speech to the club legend.

Xavi is the longest serving and most decorated Barca player, having joined at the age of 11, and he eventually took to the stage to pay tribute to the club. 'I want to thank every member and every fan, I'm very grateful,' he said at the event. 'The trophies are nothing compared to the laughs I had here and the friends I'm leaving behind.'

'It's me who should be grateful - I could never have imagined all the things that have happened to me here. Thanks to Luis Enrique and Zubi (Andoni Zubizarreta), who convinced me not to leave last summer. I'd have killed myself now if I had left.'

A World Cup winner with Spain, Xavi has made over 500 appearances for the Blaugrana, clinching 24 trophies, including 3 Champions League and 8 Primera Division titles.

Xavi reflected on his career as both a club and international player, and paid tribute to late managers Tito Vilanova, who managed him at Barca, and former Spain boss Luis Aragones.

Xavi, who has helped Barca secure the La Liga and Copa del Rey this season, also revealed he hopes to return to the club in the future. 'I hope this isn't a goodbye, but a see-you-soon. Thanks for everything, Barca.' Past and present team-mates attended the event at the Nou Camp and players including Andres Iniesta gave speeches.





Rafa Benitez named new coach of Real Madrid

Rafa Benitez has been confirmed as the new coach of Real Madrid on a three-year contract and will be introduced to the media at midday today.

The 55-year-old Spaniard takes over from Carlo Ancelotti, who departed the Bernabeu last week just 12 months after guiding the club to their 10th European Cup success. Madrid-born Benitez has spent the past two seasons with Italian side Napoli, having previously enjoyed success at European level with a number of clubs.

After leading Valencia to UEFA Cup glory in 2004, the following year he moved to the Premier League and orchestrated Liverpool's Champions League victory at Istanbul in only his first season on Merseyside. Two years later, he guided the Reds to another Champions League final and, in 2013, was interim boss at Chelsea when they won the Europa League.

At domestic level, he has won two La Liga titles with Valencia and an FA Cup at Anfield. Benitez, Real's eighth coach in 10 years, is returning to Madrid for a third spell in a coaching role having previously been in charge of their youth side in 1986 and their 'B' team in the early 1990s.

In a brief statement, Real Madrid said: "Real Madrid will present today, Wednesday, June 3, Rafa Benitez as the new coach of the first team for the next three seasons."

